Minnesota Environmental Quality Board



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Staff provided by the Department of Administration

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ON A PROPOSED 115 KV, TRANSMISSION LINE, IN PLYMOUTH AND MAPLE GROVE

Plymouth Library, Public Meeting Room

Tuesday, October 28, 2003 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm

The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) will conduct a public information meeting in the Plymouth Library public meeting room at 15700 36th Avenue North, Plymouth on **October 28, 2003**, concerning a proposal by Great River Energy (GRE) and Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (W-H) to construct and operate a 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in the cities of Plymouth and Maple Grove to improve electrical system reliability. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to the public about the proposed project, answer questions, identify the potential significant issues and alternatives and scope the Environmental Assessment Representatives of Great River Energy will be available to answer questions about the proposed project. EQB staff will conduct the public meeting and describe EQB's role in the application review and permit process.

GRE proposes converting the existing 69-kV transmission line connecting the Hennepin, Arbor Lake, Cedar Island, Bass Lake and Plymouth substations to a 115-kV transmission line. The 115-kV transmission line would be extended to terminate at the Elm Creek Substation located at County Road 81 and Fernbrook Lane in Maple Grove on the north end and at the Parkers Lake Substation located near I-494 and County Road 6 in Plymouth on the south end. The total proposed route would involve about 14 miles of transmission line. Two-thirds of the route would follow an existing transmission line corridor and use existing rights of way; one-third of the route would follow a new corridor along an existing highway and require acquisition of new rights of way. All of the proposed project is located in Hennepin County, Minnesota. At the conclusion of the review process, the EQB Board will designate the project route and issue a permit.

On September 9, 2003, GRE submitted to the EQB a site permit application regarding the proposed HVTL. On September 18, 2003, the EQB Chair accepted the application as substantially complete and notified the applicant in writing of the decision. Copies of the application can be obtained at (www.eqb.state.mn.us/EnergyFacilities/index.html); persons can also request to be added to the EQB mailing list at this site.

The Chair designated EQB staff members George Johnson as project manager and Larry Hartman as the public advisor in this matter. Inquiries about this project should be directed to the EQB project manager, George Johnson (george.johnson@state.mn.us) or Larry Hartman (larry.hartman@state.mn.us) 300 Centennial Bldg., 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155, telephone 651.296.9535, facsimile 651.296.3698 (TTY relay service 800.627.3529).